8. Registration of political parties and compulsory audit.
9. Reduction of voting age.
10. Ban on candidates contesting from more than two constituencies.
11. Disqualification of persons with criminal records.
12. Prevention of disturbances at election meetings.
13. Prevention of fraudulent filing of nomination papers.
14. Measures to control the offence of booth capturing.
15. Countermanding of elections not to be resorted to on the death of an independent candidate.
16. The expenditure incurred by a political party to be included in computing the election expenses.
17. Separate electoral machinery under the control of Election Commission.
18. Statutory backing for observers of the Election Commission.
19. Chief Electoral Officers, District Election Officers etc. to be on deputation to Election Commission.

ANNEXURE II

*Main changes made in the Election Laws*

1. Reduction in voting age from 21 years to 18 years.
2. The Chief Electoral Officers, District Election Officers and other Election Staff to be deemed to be on deputation to Election Commission for the period of election and to be subject to the control, superintendence and discipline of the Commission.
3. Disqualification section made more stiff by including offences under various laws.
4. Definition of political parties and provisions for their registration.
5. Provisions for use of electronic voting machines at elections.
6. Booth capturing made an offence with provision for countermanding of election.
7. Enhancement of punishment for causing disturbances at election meetings.
8. Number of proposers increased for election to Rajya Sabha and legislative councils.

**Pay Scales of Regional Rural Bank Employees**

21. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have accepted the recommendations of Hyderabad Tribunal Award for bringing the pay scales of the employees of Regional Rural Banks at par with those in other nationalised banks; and

(b) if so, since when the enhanced scales of pay have been given to the employees of Regional Rural Banks as per the recommendations of the said Award?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The National Industrial Tribunal for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) set up at Hyderabad, *inter-alia*, recommended the grant of pay scales to the employees of RRBs at par with those applicable to the employees of sponsor banks with effect from 1-9-1987. Government have accepted the recommendations of the Tribunal, and has asked National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to implement the same.